

LODGE SPEAKS

EXPLAINS THE HAY-PAUNCEFOTE TREATY AMENDMENTS.

Gives Reasons for the Changes and Says They Were Not Dictated by Hostility Towards Britain.

ALSO COMMENDS COLONEL HAY

AND DECLARES THE AMENDMENTS ARE NO REFLECTION ON HIM.

Object in Abrogating the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty Was to Remove Obstacles in Way of the Canal.

NO CAUSE FOR OBJECTION

GREAT BRITAIN'S RIGHTS NOT DISREGARDED BY THE CHANGES.

What She Is Asked by the Senate to Do—Mr. Lodge of Opinion She Will Accept the New Treaty.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Senator Lodge, who had charge of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty in the Senate, to-day made the following statement:

"The Senate amendments are very important, but they are also very simple, although there seems to be some misunderstanding in regard to them, owing to the fact that all the debates on the treaty took place behind closed doors. Now that the amendments and votes have been made public by order of the Senate, it may not be amiss to explain them briefly.

"Let me say, first, that the amendments were not dictated by hostility toward England, and still less were they in any degree a reflection on the secretary of state, whose patriotism, purity of purpose, knowledge, accomplishments and high achievements in dealing with our foreign relations, especially in China, are fully and cordially recognized by men in all parties and all shades of opinion in the Senate. The amendments were made by the Senate solely because, in its opinion, they were necessary for the interests of the United States, for the avoidance of any question as to the control of the canal, and, consequently, for the sake of peaceful and harmonious relations with the rest of the world on that subject in the future. The votes by which they were adopted shows this. The second, or Davis amendment, passed by a vote of 65 to 17, and the other two were adopted without division.

THE SECOND ARTICLE.

"Under Article II of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty as it stood we were clearly bound, if engaged in war, to permit a hostile fleet, if it succeeded in getting inside the three-mile zone, to pass unmolested through the canal. This may or may not be a practical question, and it is of no consequence whether it is or not. It was a solemn promise to permit a hostile fleet to use the canal. That promise we either intended to keep, or else we made it knowing that under the stress of war we should break it. If we meant to keep it, then it was a promise of nation ought to make. If we knew that we should not keep it in time of war, then it was only honest and fair to relieve ourselves of the obligation in the treaty itself. This was the purpose of the second, or Davis amendment, which entirely disposes of any such promise, and which follows exactly in principle, and almost exactly in words, Article X of the Suez convention, which reserved similar rights to Turkey, whose interest in the Suez canal is trivial compared to ours in that proposed in Nicaragua.

"The third amendment strikes out Article III, by which we engaged to invite other nations to adhere to the treaty, and thereby become parties to it. Had there been no Clayton-Bulwer treaty, we should have negotiated with no one except Costa Rica and Nicaragua as to building the canal. With England, owing to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, we were obliged to treat, but as we expect Europe to keep out of this hemisphere it seemed to the Senate unwise, however excellent and liberal the intention, to invite European nations to share in an American treaty, and thus give them the right to meddle in American affairs at any time.

"Such are the purposes of the three amendments, which in no way derogate from the intention of the United States that this canal shall be a neutral highway for the world's commerce."

"Do you think England will accept or reject these Senate amendments?" the senator was asked.

"That is a question I have been asked many times, and upon which I do not think it would be right or proper for me to express an opinion," was the reply. "But I think I can, with propriety, say a word as to our view of the amendments. It is well recognized in international law that when the conditions under which a treaty has been made have been radically changed and new conditions and new demands have arisen, this fact is an ample ground for seeking an abrogation or modification of the original instrument. The American people desire to build, and mean to build and control the isthmian canal. They recognize that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, made fifty years ago under conditions no longer existent, stands in the way. They have no desire to clear it from their path in a violent fashion by formally denouncing it, or by passing laws and taking action in contravention of its provisions. They wish to remove it by amicable arrangement in a suitable and becoming manner. The Hay-

Pauncefote treaty was formed for this object.

WHAT ENGLAND IS ASKED TO DO.

"The Senate is part of the treaty-making power, and the treaties made to it for ratification are not strictly treaties, but projects for treaties. They are still inchoate. In the exercise of its undoubted rights, without the slightest reflection upon any one, and without a shadow of hostility to a friendly nation, the Senate, continuing the negotiation begun by Mr. Hay, offers three new propositions to England. They ask her to omit the clause inviting other nations to adhere to the treaty which she has at all. They ask her to conform to our desire by agreeing in unmistakable language to the supersession of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty by the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, which is a whole new purpose of the negotiation. They ask her finally to accept in this treaty the reservation of rights in time of war which she granted to Turkey in the Suez convention and of which, as the present possessor of Egypt, she is now herself the beneficiary. These propositions are all essential to American interests, and are fair, reasonable, friendly and in no possible sense offensive.

"England's interest in having the canal built, be it great or small, is second only to that of the United States, for she alone has, like the United States, large possessions in North America and both an Atlantic and Pacific coast. We agree that all vessels of commerce and of war shall pass through the canal on the same terms as our own, and in war between other powers we agree to preserve the neutrality of the canal toward all belligerents. In deference to the wishes of Nicaragua and Costa Rica in regard to this treaty and not to that of the United States, we have relinquished the right to erect permanent fortifications, and, although there is no need of such fortifications, the right to erect them is an important right and its relinquishment goes to the last verge of concession. The vast expense of the canal is ours, the maintenance and defense of it are ours, and the American people will never permit a canal there which they do not control, because the defense of the canal (CONTINUED ON PAGE 4, COL. 3.)

STEAD SEES KRUGER

LONDON EDITOR HAS A TALK WITH THE FUGITIVE BOER.

He Says the Former President Does Not Want to Involve Other Powers in War on His Behalf.

OBJECTS TO ANY COMPROMISE

IF ARBITRATION IS REFUSED THE BOERS WILL DIE FIGHTING.

Mr. Kruger Again Accuses the British of Waging War Like Savages and Ill-Treating Women.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—W. T. Stead has just returned from The Hague, where he had a conference with Mr. Kruger and ascertained at first hand the views of Mr. Kruger and his counselors as to the present situation and future prospects. Mr. Stead has written the following for the Associated Press:

"First of all, nothing is decided about his visit to America at present. President Kruger has not abandoned all hope of securing the support of the governments of the civilized world in his demand for arbitration. Until the last government refuses absolutely to say a word in support of the principles which they solemnly laid down at The Hague conference Mr. Kruger will not partake in popular demonstrations. It is recognized that if he cared to do so he could shake the continent. The popular enthusiasm for him is unparalleled since Garibaldi's visit to London, but until his diplomatic mission is exhausted an appeal to the peoples cannot even be taken into consideration. Mr. Kruger is emphatic in disclaiming any desire to involve other nations in war in behalf of the Boers. What he asks is that the governments which, at The Hague, declared their determination to use their efforts to secure amicable settlement of disputes by means of mediation and arbitration should make a united effort to bring the verdict of the civilized world to bear upon Great Britain.

"The English," Mr. Kruger says, "are waging this war in South Africa like savages. They are burning homes, destroying farms, cutting trees, devastating fields and creating famine. They are unable to capture De Wet, but they are making prisoners of women and children, who are treated with ordinary decency. Hundreds of women have been confined in a prison kraal near Port Elizabeth, with only one chair, and several of them are expecting to become mothers."

"Mr. Kruger avers that the provisions of The Hague convention and laws and usages of war are trampled under foot, and that he wants to know whether the signatories of this convention have anything to say on the subject.

"The man on horseback at this moment is not Mr. Kruger, but President Steyn. He, Delarey and De Wet are masters of the situation, having better disciplined and more effective force than that which followed the veldkroon (flag) at the outbreak of the war. They have plenty of ammunition and replenish their stores continually from the British convoys. They have taken enough Lee Metford rifles to arm all the burghers now in the field. I cannot put their position better than in the words of one of Mr. Kruger's men: 'England is our enemy. England is the judge. England is the executioner and England hopes to profit by our death. We appeal for arbitration before war. We are fighting for arbitration to-day. We have the right to expect the sympathy of the civilized world. I found Mr. Kruger hale. His bearing is not so good as it was. His mind moves slowly, but he is not slow. He has seen the old fire flashes from his eyes and you hear the deep resonant voice which he wanted the burghers to hear with him. Queen Wilhelmina is kindness itself. She has displayed pluck, in remarkable contrast to the timidity of many of her official advisers. I found the old man's spirit unshaken by his reverses. He disclaimed any desire to humiliate England, and said they only wanted their rights.

"It may interest Americans to know that Mr. Kruger's appeal to the civilized world would be received everywhere with unanimous enthusiasm and jealousy of the dynasties of Hapsburg and Hohenzollern against the President of a republic. If he were a King the courts would have been open everywhere. But the central European monarchs dread the popular enthusiasm excited by the heroic figure of the republican President pleading for justice. This feeling, it is noted, is not shared by Russia. The Boers will not listen to any proposals for a compromise. They are unanimous on this point. Failing in arbitration they will prefer to die fighting."

GALLANT DASH

DETAILS OF GEN. DE WET'S RECENT ESCAPE FROM THE BRITISH.

Feat That Will Live in Military Annals as a Spectacular Display of Daring and Courage.

LED BY STEYN AND FOURIER

WITH DE WET BRINGING UP THE REAR OF HIS FORCE.

The Little Army of 2,500 Boers Ran the Gauntlet of British Guns for About Four Miles.

GALLOPED IN OPEN ORDER

PAST FORTIFIED POSTS WHERE ARTILLERY WAS BELCHING.

And Paid No Attention to Incessant Infantry Fire—Victory for Gen. French—Revolt Spreading.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The ubiquitous and witty De Wet, "the South African fox," as he is sometimes called, promises to live into history as one of the most daring and dare-devil military figures of the closing decade of the century. Numerous traps have been set for him, but so far he has evaded them all. Occasionally he has found himself in close quarters, but his daring and bravery have always helped him to safety. Advice from Bloemfontein says:

"The details of General De Wet's latest escape from the encircling British columns show that it was one of the boldest incidents of the war. When Haasbroeck's commando joined De Wet, Dec. 12, some fifteen miles east of Thabanchu, General Knox was only about an hour distant and the Boer situation seemed desperate. But De Wet was equal to the occasion. Dispatching Haasbroeck westward to make a feint at Victoria Nek, De Wet prepared to break through the British columns at Springhuk Nek Pass, about four miles south of the main road. When Haasbroeck's commando joined De Wet, Dec. 12, some fifteen miles east of Thabanchu, General Knox was only about an hour distant and the Boer situation seemed desperate. But De Wet was equal to the occasion. Dispatching Haasbroeck westward to make a feint at Victoria Nek, De Wet prepared to break through the British columns at Springhuk Nek Pass, about four miles south of the main road. 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